

BOROUGH OF ROWLEY REGIS



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1942



FRANK ASKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.





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Public Health Department,  
Municipal Buildings,  
Old Hill, Staffs.

November, 1943.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1942, in which is incorporated the Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

In spite of difficulties due to shortage of staff, etc., the routine work of the department was carried out satisfactorily, and it was proved possible to maintain the health services at pre-war level. During the year under review, two War-time Day Nurseries were erected and opened.

I again take this opportunity of thanking all those Civil Defence Volunteers who have given so generously of their time and energy to the Casualty Services.

I also thank all Members of the Council and Education Committee for their help and consideration, my colleagues and staff for their help, co-operation and loyal assistance.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

FRANK ASKER,

Medical Officer of Health  
and  
School Medical Officer.



## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:—

FRANK ASKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:—

IRENE D. M. F. C. HASTILOW, M.B., Ch.B. (Birm.),  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lon.), D.P.H. (Birm.).

Ophthalmic Surgeon (part-time):—

F. N. ROBERTS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (On Active Service).  
A. M. DUFF, M.B., B.C.L., B.A.O. (Temporary).

Consulting Obstetric Specialist (part-time):—

W. E. BARNIE-ADSHEAD, M.B., F.R.C.S.

Aural Surgeon (part-time):—

C. L. WALKER, F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

Dental Officer:—

L. HOWARD THOMPSON, L.D.S.

Sanitary Inspector:—

ALEC LONGFELLOW, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.B.,  
Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Meat and Food Inspector's  
Certificate, Smoke Inspector's Certificate, Diploma of the  
Institute of Public Cleansing, Honours in Plumbing and  
Sanitary Science of the City and Guilds of London Institute.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:—

W. WOOLDRIDGE, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's  
Certificate.

REGINALD HEATH, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's  
Certificate and Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate.

LEONARD COOMBES, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's  
Certificate and Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate.

It is with deep regret that I have to record the death on Active Service of Sergeant Pilot Gwilym Willis.
--

Health Visitors (who are also School Nurses):—

N. E. CHILTON, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. (On Active Service).

T. BELLAMY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. (On Active Service).

A. E. HALLAM, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Resigned 29th June, 1942—  
Re-engaged part-time 1st September, 1942).

M. A. FELLOWS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C.

W. H. BENNETT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. (Resigned 30th  
May, 1942).

A. M. GILLIVER, S.R.N.

M. E. McKEE, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Resigned 25th November,  
1942).

M. W. COMER, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N. (Resigned 30th  
April, 1942).

A. M. WALTON, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.S.I., H.V.C. (Com-  
menced August, 1942).

Municipal Midwives :—

M. HAYWARD, S.R.N., S.C.M.  
 F. NORWOOD, S.C.M.  
 S. E. RANN, S.C.M.  
 M. A. ROSE, S.C.M.  
 J. M. STALEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.  
 S. F. WHITTALL, S.C.M.  
 B. M. WEBBER, S.R.N., S.C.M.  
 H. M. GREPE, S.C.M.

Clerks :—

M. FORREST	} Whole-time jointly with School Medical Department.
C. WOODHOUSE (Resigned 24th Dec., 1942).	
E. D. PRIEST (Transferred to industry, 16th May, 1942)	
V. DUNN	
M. ROUND (Commenced 17th October, 1942).	
I. E. ROUND (Commenced 1st July, 1942).	} Whole-time Sanitary Inspector's Clerks.
D. MORGAN	
D. M. WEBSTER	

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) ... ..	3,828
Population, Census 1931 ... ..	41,235
Estimated mid-year, 1942 ... ..	45,460
Number of houses (end of 1942) according to Rate Books ... ..	11,988
Rateable value at December, 1942 .. ...	£173,583
Sum represented by a penny rate at 31st March, 1942, gross ... ..	£678 2s. 10d.
Estimated at 31st December, 1942, gross ...	£675 0s. 0d.
Live Births : Legitimate ... ..	Total 850 M. 453 F. 397
Illegitimate ... ..	14 7 7
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ...	19.005
Stillbirths ... ..	29 17 12
Rate per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths) ... ..	33.5
Deaths ... ..	419 224 195

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 9.2

Deaths from Puerperal causes (heading 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's short list) :—

	Total	Rate per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths)
No. 29. Puerperal and Post-Abortion		
Sepsis ... ..	1	1.119
No. 30. Other Maternal Causes ...	1	1.119
Total ... ..	2	2.238

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	55.5
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	54.39
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	71.42

Deaths from :—

Measles (all ages) ... ..	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	4
Diphtheria ... ..	10
Scarlet Fever ... ..	Nil

## BIRTHS.

The total births accredited to Rowley Regis during the year under review was 864, an increase of 106 on the preceding year. The birth rate for the area was 19.005, which figure is higher than that of the whole country (viz. 15.8). Of these 864 births, 14 were illegitimate (7 male and 7 female). The majority of births were attended by Municipal Midwives.

## WAR-TIME DAY NURSERIES.

During the year two War-time Day Nurseries were erected—the buildings are pre-fabricated May-crete huts, each capable of accommodating 40 children. One was sited in Britannia Park, and the other on Lomey Town Mound. They were opened in November and at the end of the year there were 23 children on the register at Britannia Park and 19 children at Lomey Town Nursery.



REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF  
DEATH IN THIS AREA.

CAUSE OF DEATH ... ..	M.	F.	Total
ALL CAUSES ... ..	224	195	419
Typhoid and Parat. Fevers ... ..	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	1	—	1
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	2	—	2
Diphtheria ... ..	5	5	10
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	19	6	25
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	1	3	4
Syphilitic Diseases ... ..	2	—	2
Influenza ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—
Ac. polio-myel. and polio-enceph. ... ..	—	—	—
Ac. Inf. enceph. ... ..	1	—	1
Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Oesoph (M), Uterus (F) ... ..	4	2	6
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	4	5	9
Cancer of Breast ... ..	—	6	6
Cancer of all other sites... ..	24	21	45
Diabetes ... ..	—	1	1
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	16	11	27
Heart disease ... ..	36	43	79
Other diseases of circulatory system ... ..	5	9	14
Bronchitis ... ..	15	14	29
Pneumonia ... ..	16	10	26
Other respiratory diseases ... ..	4	4	8
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	2	1	3
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..	4	—	4
Appendicitis ... ..	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	5	7	12
Nephritis ... ..	3	2	5
Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis ... ..	—	1	1
Other maternal causes ... ..	—	1	1
Premature Birth ... ..	12	4	16
Con. mal. birth inj. infant. dis. ... ..	8	6	14
Suicide ... ..	3	2	5
Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	5	4	9
Other violent causes ... ..	3	7	10
All other causes ... ..	24	20	44
Deaths of Infants under 1 year:—			
Total ... ..	29	19	48
Legitimate ... ..	29	18	47
Illegitimate ... ..	—	1	1

## GENERAL REMARKS ON THE DEATH RATE.

419 deaths were recorded for Rowley Regis in 1942. The general death rate showed a decrease, viz. 9.2 as compared with 10.86 in 1941. The highest number of deaths were attributable to the following causes:—

Heart Disease	...	79
Cancer	... ..	66

## ABNORMAL SICKNESS OR MORTALITY.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year, nor have the occupations or environment of the district had any demonstrably detrimental effect upon the public health.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

It is not necessary to deal with these matters in this report as they remain unchanged from previous years.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

- (a) **Maternal Mortality:** Only one maternal death occurred during the year; the cause of death being certified as Pulmonary Embolism.
- (b) **Infantile Mortality:** 48 deaths were registered in children under 1 year—the infantile mortality rate of 55.31 was considerably below the figure for 1941, which was 82.35. The death rate per 1,000 live births (legitimate and illegitimate) are tabulated below:—

Legitimate	...	...	...	54.16
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1.15
Total	...	...	...	<hr/> 55.31

## PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

During the year under review, two notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia were received. Both patients were admitted to hospital for treatment. The case rate per 1,000 is best expressed in relation to the number of births (live and still) registered rather than to the population, and when calculated on this basis is 2.239. This figure compares favourably with that for England and Wales—12.61.

## MIDWIVES.

As in the previous year, supervision of the Municipal Midwives was undertaken by the Deputy Medical Officer. Routine visits of inspection were carried out, the bags and instruments examined, and their registers and records inspected. During the year 9 midwives gave notice of intention to practise in the Borough. Of the 822 cases dealt with in Rowley Regis, 730 were attended by Municipal Midwives, as midwives, and 88 as Maternity Nurses; 4 cases were attended by private midwives. The average number of cases taken by each midwife was approximately 102.

Medical aid was summoned either on account of the mother or infant in 208 cases.

## HEALTH VISITING.

The Local Authority normally maintains a staff of 6 Health Visitors with combined duties of School Nurses, although during this year there was an average of 5 employed.

The table below gives a summary of the visits made by the Health Visitors in 1942:—

	Visits.	Re-visits.	Total.
Expectant Mothers ... ..	3	—	3
Live Births ... ..	562	509	1071
Children 1 to 5 years... ..	147	1082	1229
Still Births ... ..	21	—	21
Infant Deaths ... ..	23	—	23
Maternal Deaths ... ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	3	—	3
Polio-myelitis ... ..	—	—	—
Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases ... ..	—	—	—
Tuberculosis : County Council ... ..	54	157	211
Local Authority ... ..	12	27	39
Measles ... ..	77	—	77
Whooping Cough ... ..	9	—	9
Boarded-out Children ; County Council ... ..	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ... ..	509	54	563
	1420	1829	3249

The total number of visits paid by the Health Visitors was 3,249, which is a reduction of over 3,000 visits against last year. This is due to the fact that for some part of the year we were understaffed.

## CHILDREN ACT, 1908.

No children were on the register in 1942. The Medical Officer of Health is the person designated to receive the necessary notices, and the Health Visitors visit such children as come under the statute.



## INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Four Infant Welfare Centres are provided and maintained by the Council; six sessions being held weekly. Two nurses and a doctor are in attendance at the Centres, and are assisted by Voluntary Helpers, and here I take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the work undertaken by these ladies, and would like to say how much their services are appreciated by the mothers and staff.

- (a) The total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year, and who on the date of their first attendance were

(i) Under 1 year of age	...	702
(ii) Over 1 year of age	...	284

- (b) The total number of children under five years of age who attended at the Centres during the year, and who at the end of the year were

(i) Under 1 year of age	...	550
(ii) Over 1 year of age	...	733

- (c) The total number of attendances at the Centres was 10,712, as compared with 13,760 last year.

## PRE-NATAL CLINICS.

There are three Clinics provided and maintained by the Council, in which Pre-Natal work is carried out. The statistics of attendances and work done are given below :—

(i) No. of cases during the year	...	...	373
(ii) No. of sessions held	...	...	63
(iii) Total attendances	...	...	1,577
(iv) Average attendances per session	...	...	24

Facilities exist for providing dental treatment, extra nourishment, etc.

## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### 1.—(1) WATER.

As in the previous report, the water supply, which is adequate and satisfactory, is supplied by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

One sample of water for chemical analysis and one for bacteriological analysis have been taken from a Well in connection with a bakehouse suggested to be used as emergency supply. These, however, proved unsatisfactory.

## (2) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

All new work is supervised by the Building Inspector, who works under the Borough Surveyor. General repairs under the Public Health Acts are done through the Sanitary Department.

Drainage work carried out through the Sanitary Department is as follows:—

No. of new intercepting traps	...	...	4
No. of yards of new drains laid	...	...	145
New gullies fixed	...	...	14
New ventilation pipes fixed	...	...	4
New inspection chambers	...	...	12
No. of drains unstopped	...	...	135
Drains tested	...	...	5
No. of new sewer connections	...	...	2

In addition, the following work has been carried out:—

New urinal stalls provided	...	...	1
Privies abolished	...	...	1
Pails provided in lieu of privies	...	...	1
Additional W.C.s provided	...	...	7
Defective pails renewed	...	...	3
New piggeries built	...	...	11
Water samples taken	...	...	2

## 3.—(1) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

All existing privies are inaccessible to the sewer.

The W.C., Ashpit and Cesspool accommodation in the Borough at the end of the year, December, 1942, is as follows:—

Wards.	No. of W.C's.	No. of Bins	No. of Privies.	No. of Pails.	No. of Cess-pools
Cradley Heath ...	2785	2735	4	15	1
Old Hill ...	2832	2856	7	8	1
Blackheath ...	1886	2098	—	—	—
Rowley Regis ...	3310	3650	15	27	12
Tividale ...	2149	2012	21	25	4
Totals ...	12962	13351	47	75	18

## (2) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The cesspool emptyings are carried out by the Surveyor's Department, with the gully emptying machine in conjunction with and at the request of the Sanitary Department. They are situated as follows:—

## CESSPOOLS.

### Premises :

“ Briardene,” Oakham.  
“ Beulah,” Oakham.  
“ Braemar,” Oakham.  
“ Brookfield, Oakham.  
“ Golf Club,” Oakham.  
“ Wellfield House,” Oakham.  
“ Dellgarda,” New House, Darby’s Hill.  
Marler Bros., Perry’s Lane, Rowley Regis.  
“ The Dell,” Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.  
“ Lyndale,” Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.  
Diamond Cottages, Gadds Green, Rowley Regis.  
Two Cottages, Richards Quarries, Gadds Green.  
“ The Spiers,” New Birmingham to Wolverhampton Road,  
Tividale.  
“ Pontymoile,” Birmingham to Wolverhampton New Road.  
“ Windymoor,” Darby’s Hill, Oakham.  
Smart, Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.  
Cricket Field, Old Hill.  
Kendrick & Mole, Corngreaves Road, Cradley Heath.

## DISPOSAL.

Centralised tipping continued at Powke Lane, Old Hill, where it is under constant supervision. No nuisance whatever is experienced as adequate covering material is available in the form of ashes and loamy earth from the sides of the original marl-hole,

One interesting feature is the absolute absence of crickets and other vermin. Also there is less possibility of spontaneous firing. These troubles in the past years have been continuous sources of worry and anxiety.

This freedom from trouble, of course, is due to the fact that paper and other combustible material has been salvaged and the heat generating material of vegetation and the like has been kept out of the dust bins.



CLEANSING SERVICES.  
HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE.

Table showing Costs for the Year ending 31st March, 1942.

Item	Particulars.	COLLECTION.		DISPOSAL.		COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.	
		(A) (3)	(B) (4)	(A) (5)	(B) (6)	(A) (7)	(B) (8)
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1.	REVENUE ACCOUNT.						
	Gross Expenditure ...	6662 0 0	6304 0 0	1527 0 0	1495 0 0	8189 0 0	7799 0 0
2.	Gross Income ...	29 0 0	29 0 0	14 0 0	14 0 0	43 0 0	43 0 0
3.	Net Cost ...	6633 0 0	6275 0 0	1513 0 0	1481 0 0	8146 0 0	7756 0 0
	UNIT COSTS.						
	Gross Expenditure per ton ...	15 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	14 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	18 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	17 7 1
5.	Gross Income per ton ...						
6.	Net Cost per ton ...	14 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 2	3 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 4	18 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	17 6
7.	Net Cost per 1,000 population ...	145 16 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	137 19 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	33 5 4	32 11 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	179 2 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	170 10 8 $\frac{3}{4}$
8.	Net costs, per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected ...	551 11 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	521 15 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	125 16 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	123 3 0	677 7 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	644 18 8 $\frac{3}{4}$

Cricketts, however, have been found in the baling sheds and it is found that unless accumulating rubbish is removed very frequently, heat generates with possibly disastrous results.

By the end of the year, three of the Refuse Freighters will have been in continuous service for eleven years and are now getting fairly well worn out.

In the Summer period, a 4-6 ton Fordson L.W.B. lorry was purchased and put into commission and used solely for the collection of Pig Food. This was purchased out of salvage sales.

A nuisance was temporarily created by an outside authority tipping "Salvo Dust" in the "Quack Pool," Rowley.

"Salvo Dust" is the first screenings of domestic refuse at a destructor works before the material passes on to the Picking Belt, prior to discharging into the furnace. The idea is to extract the incombustible mineral matter as this tends to choke the fires.

It, however, contains a small amount of vegetable matter which causes slight putrescence, especially if tipped in water.

Tipping was suspended for several weeks and the water purified itself.

- 1.—Total refuse collected in tons—8,863 tons.
- 2.—Population: Middle of 1942 (estimated)—45,460.
- 3.—Area (Statute acres)—3,828.
- 4.—Weight (in cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)—10.67.
- 5.—Number of houses and premises—12,026.
- 6.—Method of Collection :

Mechanical Vehicles 4	Percentage of refuse collected 100%
-----------------------------	---
- 7.—Method of disposal :—  
Controlled Tipping.
- 8.—Average length of haul—1½ miles.
- 9.—No. of employees other than clerical :—

Collection—22.	Disposal—4.
----------------	-------------

Not included in the above figures is the financial balance of the salvage returns, which for the period ending 31st March, 1942, amounts to approximately £1,414 1s. 8d. Therefore the all-in costs of refuse collection, disposal and salvage services, amount to £6,731 18s. 4d.

This is almost the same as for the previous year in spite of additional working costs, higher wages, and a lesser output by labour.

The tonnage shown should also be increased by the salvage collected for this period, which is 1,162 tons, 13 cwts., making a total of 10,025 tons, 13 cwts. This material would normally be put in the dustbin and, of course, must be accounted for.

However, the total collected is much less than the previous year and this may be attributed to the fact of economy in fuel and a fortnightly collection. Also, previously the tonnage was estimated on test weighings, whilst now all material passes over a weighbridge and the actual tonnage is recorded.

### WASTE RECOVERY.

S.O.S. (Salvage or Sink) is the slogan by which Rowley Regis is known, and these huge 18-inch white letters, painted on a dark background on the vehicles, cannot fail to attract attention and keep the Public well informed of the necessity of saving shipping space.

During the National Metal Salvage Drive in October, large posters were exhibited at the Collecting Centres, Receiving Depots and empty shop windows throughout the Borough with the caption "A SECOND FRONT IS USELESS without brass, copper and lead." The publicity was well worth the while.

It was necessary to institute proceedings through the Police for the theft of Pig Food from the communal bins and this, together with the special canvass of every house in the Borough, increased the declining amount of pig food available for collection by several tons per week.

In the National Paper Salvage Drive, held in January, Rowley Regis did exceptionally well by collecting 139 tons, 10 cwts. of paper and books in the four weeks, two weeks of which, traffic was almost impossible by heavy downfalls of snow.

Much of this was made possible by the generous gesture of Mr. Trevor Mucklow, a local public-spirited gentleman who offered the schoolchildren prizes totalling £55 in cash for the heaviest quantities collected.

The offer had an electrifying effect, irrespective of weather conditions, for whilst it was impossible to get the salvage vehicles on the road, the schoolchildren, assisted by their mothers, scoured the district and could be seen carrying bundles of papers and books to their school rendezvous. In all, the schoolchildren collected 74 tons, 17 cwts., 3 qrs.



The following particulars show the Prize Results of the various schools for the month of January, in the National effort :—

Corngreaves Junior Boys', Meredith Street :				
First Prize	...	...	...	£25
Rowley Regis Senior Boys, Britannia Road :				
Second Prize	...	...	...	£15
Tividale Senior Mixed, Dudley Road :				
Third Prize	...	...	...	£10
Cradley Heath Senior Mixed, Whitehall Road :				
Fourth Prize	...	...	...	£5

In addition to the above, a special prize of £2 10s. 0d. was awarded by the Council to the Infants' School collecting the highest amount of paper. This latter prize was awarded to the Reddall Hill Infants' School.

Throughout the year, celluloid " Merit " Badges and blue enamel metal " Special Merit " Badges were issued to the school-children in addition to prizes of savings stamps.

The alternate system of house refuse and salvage collection is being maintained as the most satisfactory method for this district, in addition to which many thanks are due to the Mayor and Mayoress and Miss Nellie Lench, W.V.S. Organiser, for the numerous salvage meetings held and attended, and the enthusiasm maintained amongst the W.V.S. voluntary workers.

The estimated value of Salvage sales are as follows :—

				£	s.	d.
January	...	...	...	511	11	8
February	...	...	...	389	15	3
March	...	...	...	268	3	10
April	...	...	...	335	8	4
May	...	...	...	460	4	9
<b>June</b>	...	..	...	485	14	0
July	...	...	...	427	6	1
August	...	...	...	378	19	5
September	...	..	...	342	1	7
October	...	...	...	335	17	0
November	...	...	...	349	1	6
December	...	...	...	556	8	4
				<hr/>		
Total sales	(estimated)	£4,640	11	9		

The following are the amounts of waste material recovered and returned to industry :—

			Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Waste Paper	...	...	464	16	2	0
Scrap Metal	...	...	48	13	1	0
Baled Tins	...	...	158	3	1	0
Mixed Irony	Non-ferrous					
Metals	...	...	0	11	0	0
Brass	...	...	0	2	3	14
Copper	...	...	0	1	1	10
Aluminium	...	...	0	3	2	0
Lead	...	...	1	10	0	0
Bones	...	...	10	1	0	16
Pig Food	...	...	402	14	1	0
Rubber	...	...	10	12	1	0
Rags	...	...	11	13	1	4
Carpets & Sacking, etc.			7	12	2	0
Rope	...	...	1	13	1	0
Broken Glass	...	...	69	3	0	0
Bottles and Jars	...		1012	gross.		
Felt Hats	...	...	42	gross, 8 dozen.		

Deputations from other Authorities have visited the District and have copied some of our methods.

The number of Communal Pig Food Bins in the district is 325, and these are collected three times per week. 102 Bone Bins are fixed about the area, resulting in an increased bone collection.

### (3) SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

#### A.—THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR 1942.

##### HOUSES.

Recorded under the Housing Regulations :—

Houses where no defects were found to exist	...	—
Houses where defects were found to exist	...	—
Houses dangerous or injurious as to be unfit	...	—

Under Public Health Acts :—

Houses where no defects were found to exist	...	67
Houses where defects were found to exist	...	171
		— 238

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES inspected during  
the year 1942 ... .. 238

RE-VISITS to houses for work in progress ... .. 777

## SYNOPSIS OF OTHER INSPECTIONS MADE.

Nature	No of Individual premises visited	Total Number of Inspections made
Shops Inspected under Shops Acts ...	118	219
Verminous Premises ...	93	405
Drains ...	228	453
Urinals ...	2	2
Slaughterhouses ...	21	381
Offensive Trades ...	1	32
Foodstores ...	974	2404
Stables and Animals kept ...	14	14
Piggeries ...	190	611
Factories ...	81	81
Bakehouses ...	27	178
Cowsheds ...	27	86
Dairies ...	23	49
Manure Pits ...	8	8
Van Dwellings ...	22	83
Carbide Stores ...	10	10
Petroleum Stores ...	118	125
Smoke ...	2	2
Infectious Disease ...	190	336
Cinemas ...	4	5
Complaints investigated ...	363	363
Defective Dustbins ...	41	109
Water Courses ...	3	3
Wells and Water Supply ...	2	2
Paraffin, Oil and Paint Stores ...	12	34
Scabies ...	7	13
Small Pox (Contacts) ...	1	8
Schools ...	203	209

INTERVIEWS WITH OWNERS ... 1276



Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1942.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
DWELLING HOUSES :				
Defective roofs ... ..	45	46	—	46
Defective roofs of verandahs & coalhouses	8	6	—	6
Defective chimneys ... ..	5	15	—	15
Defective brickwork and joints ... ..	5	8	—	8
Defective and dangerous walls ... ..	3	3	—	3
Defective or no spouting ... ..	11	13	—	13
External painting ... ..	—	2	—	2
Defective yard paving ... ..	3	4	—	4
Insanitary structures ... ..	—	—	—	—
Accumulations ... ..	5	9	—	9
Defective dust bins ... ..	36	52	2	54
Insufficient and insanitary ashpits ... ..	3	1	—	1
Dampness ... ..	2	5	—	5
Dirty dwelling houses ... ..	7	12	—	12
Dirty living rooms ... ..	1	9	—	9
Dirty bedrooms ... ..	3	17	—	17
Dirty staircases ... ..	—	3	—	3
Dirty pantries and cellars ... ..	—	3	—	3
Dirty floors ... ..	1	1	—	1
Defective staircases ... ..	—	2	—	2
Defective or no handrails ... ..	—	2	—	2
Defective floors ... ..	4	13	3	16
Defective and dangerous ceilings ... ..	12	9	1	10
Defective ceiling plaster ... ..	—	13	—	13
Defective wall plaster ... ..	—	19	—	19
Defective doors, casements and steps ... ..	1	15	—	15
Defective firegrates, brickwork and fire- grate mantles ... ..	1	9	—	9
Defective window frames, fastenings, etc.	1	17	—	17
Defective sash cords ... ..	—	6	—	6
Fixed windows ... ..	—	1	—	1
Smoke nuisances ... ..	1	3	—	3
Insufficient light and ventilation under floors ... ..	—	1	—	1
Water or sewage in cellars ... ..	—	3	1	4

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1942.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by Informa action	Formal action	Total No of Defects remedied
Verminous houses ... ..	52	27	—	27
Verminous persons and articles ... ..	2	1	—	1

#### WASHHOUSES :

Defective roofs ... ..	6	10	—	10
Defective chimneys ... ..	4	5	—	5
Defective brickwork and joints in walls ... ..	1	2	—	2
Defective and dangerous walls ... ..	—	5	—	5
Defective or no spouting ... ..	—	2	—	2
Dirty washhouses ... ..	3	6	—	6
Defective floors ... ..	—	4	—	4
Defective doors, door casements and steps	1	6	—	6
Defective window frames ... ..	—	2	—	2
Defective sash cords ... ..	1	1	—	1
Fixed windows ... ..	—	1	—	1
Defective washing boilers ... ..	5	5	—	5
Defective boiler fireplaces ... ..	1	6	—	6
Defective boiler brickwork ... ..	3	5	—	5
Defective or obstructed sink waste pipes	6	4	—	4
Insanitary or defective sinks ... ..	1	1	—	1
Insufficient water supply ... ..	2	3	—	3
Foul and defective soft water cisterns ... ..	3	1	—	1
Burst service pipes ... ..	5	7	—	7
Insufficient washhouse accommodation ... ..	1	1	—	1

#### DRAINS AND WATER CLOSETS :

Defective roofs of W.C.s, and ashbin shelters ... ..	5	7	1	8
Defective and dangerous walls ... ..	4	1	1	2
Defective brickwork and joints ... ..	—	1	—	1
Defective soil and vent pipes ... ..	1	2	—	2
Dirty water closets and drains ... ..	9	11	—	11
Defective floors ... ..	3	3	1	4
Defective doors, cases and steps ... ..	—	3	—	3
Defective flushing apparatus ... ..	20	37	2	39

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1942.		No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
			Informal action	Formal action	
Defective W.C. pans and joints ...	...	29	27	3	30
Obstructed W.C.s ...	...	5	7	—	7
Defective or no seats ...	...	6	9	—	9
Burst service pipes ...	...	13	25	—	25
Insufficient water supply ...	...	6	4	1	5
Insufficient drainage ...	...	4	2	—	2
Insufficient W.C. accommodation ...	...	3	2	—	2
Defective drains ...	...	17	18	3	21
Obstructed drains ...	...	42	38	3	41
Broken inspection chamber covers ...	...	7	10	—	10
Dilapidated W.C.s ...	...	—	2	—	2
Defective pails ...	...	2	3	—	3
Insufficient urinal accommodation ...	...	1	—	—	—

#### FACTORIES :

Insufficient urinal accommodation ...	...	2	1	—	1
Insufficient W.C. accommodation ...	...	11	—	—	—
Insufficient water supply ...	...	6	1	—	1
Verminous ...	...	2	1	—	1
Dirty water closets ...	...	2	4	—	4
Defective flushing apparatus ...	...	3	—	—	—
Insufficient light and ventilation ...	...	7	4	—	4
Defective W.C. doors, fastenings, etc. ...	...	—	2	—	2
Insufficient screening (men) ...	...	1	1	—	1
No washing facilities ...	...	14	6	—	6
Defective floors ...	...	1	—	—	—
Defective brickwork joints ...	...	1	—	—	—
Dust and smoke nuisances ...	...	1	—	—	—
Obstructed and defective drains ...	...	—	2	—	2
Defective W.C. pans and joints ...	...	—	1	—	1
Insufficient paving to W.C.s ...	...	—	2	—	2
Accumulations ...	...	—	1	—	1
Dilapidated W.C.s ...	...	10	1	—	1
No facilities for meals ...	...	—	—	—	—
Defective and insufficient drainage ...	...	4	10	—	10



Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1942.					No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
						Informal action	Formal action	
Defective roofs and chimneys ... ..					—	1	—	1
No ventilating space between W. C. and Factory .... .					—	1	—	1
PIGGERIES :								
Defective roofs ... ..					1	1	—	1
Defective floors ... ..					6	1	—	1
Insufficient drainage ... ..					6	4	—	4
Filthy ... ..					8	6	—	6
Accumulations ... ..					2	—	—	—
Defective walls ... ..					2	—	—	—
BAKEHOUSES :								
Defective roofs ... ..					1	2	—	2
Defective floors ... ..					1	—	—	—
Dirty ceiling and walls ... ..					1	—	—	—
Dirty bakehouses ... ..					8	15	—	15
Dirty benches and utensils ... ..					—	2	—	2
Accumulations ... ..					4	2	—	2
Used for sleeping ... ..					—	1	—	1
Contravention of the Food and Drugs Act					2	—	—	—
Defective yard paving ... ..					—	1	—	1
Defective and obstructive drains ... ..					—	1	—	1
Insufficient light and ventilation ... ..					1	2	—	2
Defective and dirty W.C.s ... ..					1	—	—	—
SLAUGHTERHOUSES :								
Insanitary offal pits ... ..					1	—	—	—
Dirty Slaughterhouses ... ..					1	1	—	1
Accumulations ... ..					1	—	—	—
STABLES AND ANIMALS KEPT :								
Dirty stables ... ..					1	1	—	1
Verminous premises ... ..					1	1	—	1
Insanitary manure pits ... ..					1	1	—	1

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1942.					No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
						Informal action	Formal action	
FOODSTORES :								
Verminous	...	...	...	...	7	7	—	7
Contravention of Meat Regulations	...			...	4	4	—	4
Defective and dirty floors	...		...	...	2	2	—	2
Defective receptacles	...	...	...	...	2	2	—	2
Dirty utensils	...	...	...	...	6	6	—	6
Defective doors	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Dirty foodstores	...	...	...	...	9	9	—	9
Dirty W.C.s	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	13	13	—	13
Dirty refrigerator	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Insufficient light and ventilation	...			...	1	1	—	1
DAIRIES :								
Dirty dairies	...	...	...	...	7	7	—	7
Dirty sterilising room	...	...	...	...	2	2	—	2
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Dirty coolers, bottle stores and washing rooms, etc.	...	...	...	...	2	2	—	2
SMOKE NUISANCES :	..				1	3	1	4
PETROLEUM STORES :								
Broken covers	...	...	...	...	2	3	—	3
COWSHEDS :								
Defective floors	...	...	...	...	—	5	—	5
Dirty ceilings and walls	...	...	...	...	7	7	—	7
Defective roofs	...	...	...	...	3	3	—	3
Dirty floors and windows	...	...	...	...	2	2	—	2
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	...	—	5	—	5
VAN DWELLINGS :								
Occupying land without licence from Local Authority	...	...	...	...	54	54	—	54
PARAFFIN OIL AND PAINT STORES :								
Contravention under Defence Regulation 36	...	...	...	...	13	13	—	13

## B. THE NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR 1942.

(Distinguishing Statutory from Informal).

The number of:—

INFORMAL NOTICES on the books, 31st December, 1941 ... ..	137
FORMAL NOTICES on the books 31st December, 1941 ... ..	42
INFORMAL NOTICES served during the year 1942	292
INFORMAL NOTICES served during the year 1942 re Shops Act ... ..	101
FORMAL NOTICES served during the year 1942 ...	16
	— 452

## C. THE RESULT OF THE SERVICE OF SUCH NOTICES.

INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1942 which were outstanding 31st December, 1941 ... ..	130
INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1942 which were served during the year ... ..	225
INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1942 which were served during the year re Shops Act ... ..	101
FORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1942 which were outstanding 31st December, 1941 ... ..	6
FORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1942 which were served during the year ... ..	10
	— 472

TOTAL NUMBER OF NOTICES on the books 31st  
December, 1942 (For Analysis see below):—

Formal ... ..	42
Informal ... ..	74
	— 116



## COMPLAINTS.

Complaints of a general character were received during the year, numbering 363.

## OUTWORKERS.

During the year, 13 lists have been received containing 117 names. Nine reminders were sent out to employers.

## (IV.) SHOPS.

The Shops Act, in its entirety, is carried out by the Sanitary Staff, and the following activity is recorded:—

Shops inspected	...	118	Re-visits	...	337
-----------------	-----	-----	-----------	-----	-----

One Notice was served for serving customers after hours.

## (VIII.) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

- |                                    |     |     |     |    |    |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| 1. (a) (I) Council houses infested | ... | ... | ... | 22 |    |
| (b) (I) Other houses infested      | ... | ... | ... | 31 |    |
|                                    |     |     |     | —  | 53 |
| (a) (I) Council houses disinfested | ... | ... | ... | 22 |    |
| (b) (II) Other houses disinfested  | ... | ... | ... | 31 |    |
|                                    |     |     |     | —  | 53 |
2. Houses are disinfested by spraying with Zaldecide and fumigated with Cimex. New houses are gassed with Hydro-Cyanide where possible.
3. The work of gassing by Cyanide in houses is done by Contractors.

# DETAILS OF PROSECUTIONS AND SUMMONSES SERVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

Date 1942	Place	Nature of Offence	Result
Sept. 2	No. 304, Hales- owen Road, Old Hill ... ..	Contravention of Meat Regulations, 1924, i.e., not noti- fying slaughter ...	} Fine £5 and costs.
Sept. 2	do.	Contravention of Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, i.e., not having a Licence to slaughter ... ..	
Nov. 18	Elm Terrace, Tividale ... ..	Contravention of Salvage of Waste Materials Order, 1940, i.e., taking pig food from the Corporation's bin ...	} Fine £1. Case taken by the Police.
Dec. 30	No. 69, High Street, Cradley Heath ... ..	Contravention of Meat Regulations, 1924, i.e., not noti- fying slaughter ...	
			} Fine £5.      Costs £6/6/0.

## HOUSING.

### 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	234
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1011
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	—
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	—
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	—
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	171

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	277
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	—
--	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices :—

(a) By Owners ... ..	—
----------------------	---

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ..	—
--	---

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	18
---	----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices :—

(a) By Owners ... ..	13
----------------------	----

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ..	—
--	---

In addition to the above, Notices were served on properties in respect of defective dustbins as follows :—

Preliminary Notices served ... ..	28
Preliminary Notices complied with .. ...	52
Legal Notices served ... ..	2
Legal Notices complied with by owners ... ..	2
Legal Notices complied with by Local Authority ... ..	—

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

There are 13 cowkeepers in the district occupying 26 cow-sheds. The approximate number of milch cows is 153.

There is one Bottling Establishment for Sterilised milk.

No. of Retail Purveyors of Milk on Register, 31st December, 1942 ... ..	209
---	-----

No. of Wholesale Traders and Producers on Register, 31st December, 1942 ... ..	24
--	----

Supplementary Licences granted :—

Tuberculin Tested ... ..	4
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Pasteurised ... ..	7
--------------------	---

Accredited ... ..	3
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## SAMPLING OF FOODS.

74 samples were taken for analysis by the County Authority acting for and on behalf of the Borough. Of these, 71 were genuine and 3 were adulterated. The details are as follows:—

	Samples	Genuine	Adulterated
Breakfast Food ...	1	1	—
Coffee ...	1	1	—
Dessert Powder ...	1	1	—
Flour, Batter ...	1	1	—
Flour, cake sweetened	2	2	—
Flour, Pea ...	1	1	—
Milk ...	48	45	3
Milk, Malted ...	1	1	—
Paste, Meat ...	1	1	—
Sage & Onion Stuffing	1	1	—
Sausage, Preserved ...	3	3	—
Butter ...	1	1	—
Cocoa ...	1	1	—
Coffee Extract ...	1	1	—
Baking Powder ...	1	1	—
Egg Substitute Powder	1	1	—
Marmalade ...	1	1	—
Suet, Shredded beef ...	1	1	—
Vinegar ...	2	2	—
Fruit Crush, Lemon ...	1	1	—
Oil, Cod Liver ...	1	1	—
Oleum Vitaminatum ...	1	1	—
Paste, Bloater ...	1	1	—
Totals ...	74	71	3

Commenting on the above, it will be noted that only 3 milk samples were found to be adulterated. One sample was again taken at the Farm and 2 “Appeal” samples were taken direct, one of which was just up to the standard and the other deficient in fat due to natural causes. No prosecutions were instituted but letters of warning were sent.

The County Medical Officer of Health has kindly supplied the following particulars of bacteriological examination of milk samples taken during the year in the Borough:—

### Specially designated milk:

Number of samples submitted	...	...	...	15
Number satisfactory ...	...	...	...	15
Number unsatisfactory	...	...	...	—

### Undesignated milk:

Number of samples submitted	...	...	...	40
Number satisfactory ...	...	...	...	33
Number unsatisfactory	...	...	...	7

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Pigs are being dressed for Government distribution at one Slaughterhouse at Cradley Heath.

The following animals slaughtered in the district have been inspected during the year :—

Sheep and lambs	...	...	...	...	3
Pigs	...	...	...	...	1208

The undermentioned meat and food was condemned and destroyed during the year :—

Meat :	Weight (lbs.)
Pigs' carcasses	200
Pigs' heads	132
Pigs' lungs	62
Pigs' Plucks	97
Pigs' Livers	26
Pigs' hearts	7
Pigs' offals	13
Pigs' spleens	3

Other Foods :—	No. of Tins.
Tinned Milk	1252
Tinned Salmon	20
Tinned Soup	6
Tinned Pilchards	25
Tinned Beans	49
Tinned Peas	48
Tinned Sausage	18
Tinned Tomatoes	37
Tinned Herrings	1
Tinned Pineapple	32
Tinned Marmalade	9
Tinned Plums	67
Tinned Pears	3
Tinned Apples	9
Tinned Rabbit	2
Tinned Beetroot	2
Tinned Carrots	24
Tinned Spaghetti	1
Tinned Crawfish	1
Tinned Prunes	1
Tinned Meat	188

	Quantity.
Eggs	816
Bacon	331 lbs. 9 oz.
Cheese	111 lbs. 9 oz.
Sausage	82 lbs.
Ham	7 lbs.
Headless cod	70 lbs.
Fowl	6 lbs.
Rabbit	2 lbs.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the past year has been 599, as compared with 1,013 in the previous year.

### SMALL POX.

No notification of Small Pox was received.

### DIPHTHERIA.

The total number of cases notified in 1942 was 32 as against 54 in 1941. The number of deaths in consequence of this disease was 10, which was higher than for the previous year. During the year 1,508 children were immunised against diphtheria.

### PNEUMONIA.

There were 41 cases notified during the year, from which 26 deaths resulted. The number of deaths was lower than in 1941, the comparable figures being 67 notifications and 42 deaths.

### SCARLET FEVER.

Seventy-seven cases of Scarlet Fever were reported in 1942; this disease was more prevalent than in the year preceding in which only 50 cases were notified. 12 of the cases were removed to Isolation Hospitals, and the remainder were treated at home by local practitioners. There were no deaths in consequence of this disease.

### CANCER.

The recorded number of deaths attributed to Cancer and Malignant Disease shows an increase of 13, being 66 against 53 for 1941.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

Twenty-five deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system and 4 deaths from other tubercular diseases were registered in 1942, corresponding with 18 and 5 respectively in 1941.



Home visits to tuberculosis patients were made by the Health Visitors, as follows :--

		1941		1942
Visits	... ..	31	...	66
Re-visits	... ..	312	...	184

#### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Three cases were notified and admitted to hospital for treatment, as against one for last year.

#### ERYSIPELAS.

Three cases were notified—last year's figure was five.

#### MEASLES.

354 cases were notified    No deaths occurred.

#### WHOOPING COUGH.

77 cases were notified and two deaths registered.

#### ENTERIC FEVER.

No cases have occurred in the district in the past year.

#### DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

This is carried out under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and particulars of the work are contained earlier in the report.

# SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

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## 1. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

### (a) Age Groups of Children Inspected.

Routine medical inspections were carried out as far as possible during the year and some school departments were visited for this purpose. The children examined were entrants, intermediates and leavers, i.e., as soon as possible after starting school, at the age of eight, and at the age of twelve.

All children found to be defective were re-examined unless examined in one of the code groups.

(b) The Board of Education's Schedule of Medical Inspection was used. The statistical particulars will be found in the tables at the end of the report.

## II. FINDINGS OF ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Of the 515 children inspected at the Schools, 296 were found to require treatment, i.e., 57.47%. The percentage in the three age groups was approximately as follows:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	31.77%
Intermediates	...	...	...	...	60%
Leavers	...	...	...	...	38.65%

This figure does not include children requiring treatment for malnutrition, uncleanliness or dental defects.

### (a) Uncleanliness.

As might be expected, the majority of children inspected were found to be in a cleanly condition.

Vermin surveys were undertaken at intervals throughout the year in the schools in the Borough. By reference to Table V, group II, it will be seen that 6,810 examinations (10,340 in 1941) were carried out during the year, and that 458 individual children (821 in 1941) were found to be verminous.

The following table shows the extent of uncleanness in the various schools throughout the Borough:—

School	Average No. of children examined at each survey	Percentage unclean
Cradley Heath Senior Mixed ...	251	1.99
Cradley Heath Infants' ...	182	3.84
Corngreaves Junior Boys' ...	399	—
Corngreaves Junior Girls' ...	220	8.63
Corngreaves Infants' ...	138	5.92
Reddal Hill Infants' ...	94	10.63
Macefields Senior Mixed ...	227	11.45
Old Hill Junior Mixed ...	302	9.27
Old Hill Infants ...	120	8.3
Rowley Regis Central Mixed ...	—	—
Wright's Lane Infants' ...	212	12.73
Blackheath Junior Mixed ...	292	—
Blackheath Infants' ...	299	9.4
Beeches Road Junior Mixed ...	215	4.6
Beeches Road Infants' ...	191	6.28
Rowley Regis Senior Boys' ...	224	—
Siviter's Lane Senior Girls ...	150	10.0
Rowley Hall Infants' ...	171	9.35
Doulton Road Junior Mixed ...	—	—
Knowle Infants' ...	—	—
Tividale Mixed and Infants' ...	340	1.47
City Road Junior Mixed ...	366	5.19

**(b) Nutrition.**

By reference to Table II it will be seen that of the 515 children examined during the year, 151 were reported as being of excellent nutrition, 272 normal, 87 slightly sub-normal, and 5 bad.

**(c) Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases.**

All cases where at medical inspection the vision is found to be worse than 6/9, 6/9 are referred to the Ophthalmic Surgeon for special examination. Cases with even so good a vision as 6/6, 6/9 are referred if there are any symptoms pointing to eye strain. External eye diseases are generally treated at the Minor Ailments Clinic, but, if necessary, are referred to the Ophthalmic Clinic.



**(d) Nose and Throat Defects.**

Cases of Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids form the bulk of defects under this heading. 101 cases were referred for operative treatment, and 40 cases were referred for observation. Other conditions of the nose and throat requiring treatment were referred to private practitioners.

**(e) Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.**

All cases are first referred to the Minor Ailments Clinic. Chronic or difficult cases are then referred to the Aural Clinic for further examination and treatment. There is a tendency on the part of some parents to regard running ears as a trivial defect with the result that nothing is done and the condition is allowed to become chronic. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that all cases of running ears should have treatment until the condition is cured.

**(f) Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.**

24 cases were found to be requiring treatment. The majority of these were cases of Postural Kyphosis, which can easily be corrected by remedial exercises.

**(g) Heart Disease and Rheumatism.**

Cases of heart disease and rheumatism are referred to private medical practitioners for treatment, and in the intervals between periods of treatment are kept under observation at the Clinics.

**(h) Tuberculosis.**

Any cases of Tuberculosis—definite or suspected, discovered at Routine Medical Inspections—are referred by the School Medical Officer to the Tuberculosis Officer for examination, and if necessary, treatment.

**(i) Dental Defects.**

All the children are regularly inspected by the School Dental Officer, so that dental defects discovered at Routine Medical Inspection are not recorded. Nevertheless, if the parents of children suffering from dental defects are present, opportunity is taken to point out the need for treatment and to urge them to give their consent to such treatment as the School Dental Officer may advise on the occasion of his next visit.

**(j) Other Defects and Diseases.**

Cases of other defects or diseases found to be in need of treatment are referred to private medical practitioners.

### III. FOLLOWING UP.

All children found to be suffering from defects are re-examined at intervals by the School Medical Officers—in addition, visits are paid to the homes of the children by the School Nurses. The following figures show the amount of work carried out :—

Number of individual children attending the clinics	782
Number of attendances made by the children ... ..	1981
Number of primary visits by School Nurses to homes	342
Number of re-visits to homes by School Nurses ...	188
Number of attendances by Nurses at School Clinics ...	750

### IV. ARRANGEMENT FOR TREATMENT.

There has been no change in the arrangements for treatment (See Annual Report of the School Medical Officer, 1940).

#### (a) Uncleanliness.

Combs are provided at the Clinics for loan to parents for the treatment of children with verminous heads.

#### (b) Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.

The number of minor ailments treated during the year at Clinics was 281 (240 in 1941). Most of the cases were skin conditions, especially impetigo and septic sores, otorrhoea, blepharitis and trivial injuries, which would not have received treatment from private doctors had the Clinics not been in existence.

Most of the ordinary skin diseases are dealt with at the Minor Ailments Clinic, with very successful results.

Cases of otorrhoea resistant to ordinary treatment are referred to the Aural Clinic.

#### (c) Visual Defects and External Eye Disease.

Ophthalmic Clinics were held at Carlyle Road Clinic, Macc Street and Tividale Clinics.

Many minor cases of external eye diseases were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics, but if they did not clear up within a short period they were referred to the Ophthalmic Clinic for further examination. 198 cases were examined during the year by Dr.

A. M. Duff, the Authority's Ophthalmic Surgeon. They were classified as follows:—

#### NEW CASES.

Hypermetropia	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hypermetropic Astigmatism			...	...	...	16
Mixed Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	...	5
Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	15
Myopic Astigmatism			...	...	...	15
Squint	...	...	...	...	...	16
High Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	—
Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	...	...	—
Nystagmus	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ptosis	...	...	...	...	...	—
Congenital Defects	...	...	...	...	...	—
Other	...	...	...	...	...	6
						<hr/> 96 <hr/>

#### RE-EXAMINATIONS.

Hypermetropia	...	...	...	...	...	10
Hypermetropic Astigmatism			...	...	...	25
Mixed Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	...	10
Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	3
Myopic Astigmatism		..	...	...	...	25
Squint	...	...	...	...	...	29
High Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	—
Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	...	...	—
Nystagmus	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ptosis	...	...	...	...	...	—
Congenital Defects	...	...	...	...	...	—
Other	...	..	...	...	...	—
						<hr/> 102 <hr/>

#### (d) Nose and Throat Defects.

125 cases of Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids received operative treatment under the Authority's scheme, compared with 94 last year. Of these, 7 cases—recommended through the School Medical Service—had operations; the cost of these was borne by certain firms in the Borough. Of the 125 cases, in 124 cases the operation was performed at the Ear and Throat Hospital, and in the other case at Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge. Non-operative cases of Nose and Throat defects are referred to private medical practitioners.

#### (e) Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.

An Aural Clinic is held at Carlyle Road, Rowley Regis, and during the year 9 sessions have been held, at which 156 children have received treatment and 173 attendances were made.



**(f) Dental Defects.**

Every effort is made at every possible opportunity to stress to parents and children alike the importance of a clean mouth. Constant dental supervision is necessary to ensure this, and the teeth should be inspected every 6 months and any necessary treatment carried out.

**(g) Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.**

Treatment is provided at The Royal Cripples Hospital and at "The Woodlands" and "Forelands" Open-air Hospitals and Schools, Birmingham.

The number of school children treated under the Authority's scheme was 28. 15 received treatment as out-patients, and 3 cases received treatment as in-patients, whilst two other cases received treatment as both in-patients and out-patients. The result of treatment of these defects has been very good.

An arrangement exists between the Education Committee and the Dudley Education Committee by which massage and exercises can be given to children from this Borough at "The Firs," Dudley, the cost being the same as at The Royal Cripples Hospital, Birmingham. During 1942 10 cases received treatment at Dudley. This arrangement is much more convenient to residents in certain parts of the area, and saves the Education Committee a certain amount of expense in travelling fares for necessitous cases.

Four of the cases treated at "The Firs," Dudley, were also treated as out-patients at The Royal Cripples Hospital.

Appliances were supplied during the year in 12 cases.

The School Nurses visit the cases which ceased to attend hospital before their treatment has been completed and these visits often stimulate the parents to persevere in attendance.

**(h) Heart Disease and Rheumatism.**

These cases are referred to private medical practitioners for treatment.

Rheumatic children are kept under regular observation at the School Clinics but are referred to their private medical practitioners for treatment.

**(i) Tuberculosis.**

As stated earlier in the Report, cases are referred for diagnosis and treatment to the Dudley Dispensary of the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Tuberculosis Committee. The Tuberculosis Officer indicates if exclusion from school is desirable, and, if so, for what length of time. This exclusion is then confirmed by the School Medical Officer. Sanatorium treatment is also arranged by the Joint Committee.

**(j) Other Defects and Diseases.**

Most of the defects are treated by private medical practitioners, and the cases of acute diseases, when seen at the School Clinics, are referred at once to private medical practitioners.

## V. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

### (a) Ascertainment.

In addition to the cases compulsorily notifiable, a weekly report is made by the Head Teachers of the non-notifiable infectious diseases, such as German measles, mumps and chicken-pox, and home visits are made by the Nurses, advice being given on general hygiene and the prevention of infection.

The Head Teachers made the following reports during the year 1942, as compared with 1941:—

	1942	1941
Measles ... ..	174	413
Mumps ... ..	93	155
Chicken-pox ... ..	328	92
Scarlet Fever ... ..	15	16
Whooping Cough ... ..	34	63
Diphtheria ... ..	16	13
German Measles ... ..	15	13

The weekly reports by the Head Teachers are valuable information as to the prevalence of non-notifiable diseases. If it were not for them the only information available would be the return of deaths from the diseases in question.

### (b) Prevention of Infectious Disease.

The exclusion of children follows strictly on the lines set forth in the Circular of the Board of Education and the Ministry of Health. The particulars of children excluded are forwarded to the Head Teachers and the School Attendance Officers on the day of exclusion.

### (c) Disinfection.

Each house in which a case of notifiable disease is reported is visited by a Sanitary Inspector; instructions are given, disinfectants supplied, and fumigation of clothing carried out.

### (d) Diphtheria Immunisation.

Facilities were available for School Children to be immunised against Diphtheria at the School Clinics; 875 being immunised during 1942.

### (e) School Closure.

No action has been found necessary, but individual children are excluded as required.

### (f) Hospital Treatment.

Arrangements are made to hospitalize cases of infectious disease where it is necessary to prevent the spread of disease or where specialised treatment and nursing are required.

## VI. OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

### (a) Playground Classes.

In the summer months open-air classes are held in Haden Hill Park, with very good results.

### (b) Open-Air Classrooms in Public Elementary Schools.

A covered playground in which classes could be held is provided at the Rowley Regis Senior Boys' School.

## VII. PROVISION OF MEALS.

The Authority's scheme for the provision of free milk meals, which came into force in 1932, is still in operation. Most of the children receiving free milk, show definite benefit.

A Table is given below showing for each month the number of individual children fed, and the total number of free milk meals supplied:—

Month				Individual Children Fed	Total Number of Free Milk Meals Supplied
January	...	...		312	9,682
February	...	...		338	12,039
March	...	...	...	318	11,596
April	...	...	...	301	7,991
May	...	...	...	303	8,355
June	...	...	...	319	13,093
July	...	...	...	351	13,939
August	...	...	...	—	—
September	...	...		314	12,187
October	...	...		313	11,172
November	...	...		290	9,624
December	...	...		294	8,846

## VIII, IX, X, XI...CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS AND VOLUNTARY BODIES.

This has been obtained as in previous years. Parents attended Medical Inspections as follows:—

			Entrants	Intermediates	Leavers
1941	...		64.18%	65%	25.92%
1942	...		47.66%	90%	70%



## **XII. BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.**

### **(a) Ascertainment.**

The School Nurses and the School Attendance Officers co-operate in this matter, cases being referred to the School Clinics. Assistance has been rendered by the Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare, and the Secretary's report will be found below:—

### **(b) Arrangements made for Supervision of Mentally Defective Children not in Special Schools.**

All such children are supervised and routine visits are made by the School Nurses and School Attendance Officers. Occasional visits are also made by officials of the Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare. The Occupation Centre at Old Hill, although primarily for ineducable defectives, also dealt with a few educable cases which are for some reason unsuitable for Public Elementary Schools.

### **(c) Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare.**

#### **“ Report on Work carried out for the Rowley Regis Education Committee during 1942.”**

“ I have pleasure in reporting that the supervision of feeble-minded children in their homes has been continued by the Association for a further year. In all, 16 children have been on our books this year, 92 domiciliary visits have been paid and 33 interviews arranged for the children's welfare with employers, police, probation officer and at Employment Exchanges. 3 children became 16 years old during 1942, their names have been passed on for further voluntary supervision. Four children under supervision are already at work, two are at elementary schools and one is helpless and is cared for at home. Eight children from the Borough attend the Old Hill Occupation Centre for daily training. The Centre continues under the supervision of Mrs. Ashbourne and her assistant, and great encouragement is given to the work by members of the Old Hill Centre Committee, who have arranged picnics and a Christmas Party for the children.

“ Our aim in supervision visits is to provide the defectives and their parents with a friend who is personally interested in their difficulties and their joys, and who at the same time has the training to give skilled advice to parents on the kind of care and supervision a defective needs because of his limitations. On this basis the work goes steadily forward during school years and afterwards, and gains in value from the continuity of regular visits. This contact with the homes has proved more than ever valuable in the war period in spite of the difficulty of finding parents at home with the absorption into industry of married women, efforts have been made to see the mothers personally about their children. A wise visitor can do much to help both parents and child to adjust them-

selves to the situation presented by a defective child in any family and thereby a greater measure of happiness and usefulness is brought into the defective's life. It has never been as easy as it is at the present time for a defective to find work, we use our influence with parents to obtain suitable work for their children and to secure that they shall save some part of their earnings.

“ One new case was referred during the year, the girl is being given training suited to her capacity and it is most encouraging to feel that she now has opportunity for progress. Ascertainment will always be the first step in securing care for a defective and it loses none of its importance in the war period. In this connection some Local Authorities have availed themselves of the services of an educational psychologist trained to give standardised intelligence tests to children and able to advise as to their scholastic and emotional difficulties. Surveys of intelligence groups of a school population generally show that 1% of the children in school are feeble-minded and if they are to be given their chance to make their full contribution to the community they must receive special teaching to which they can respond. We feel it is most urgent in planning post-war arrangements to secure that ascertainment of all retarded children can be carried out and suitable provision made for their training.

“We would like to take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation of the continued co-operation of the Rowley Regis Education Committee in our work at a time when the maintenance of all social services is more than ever important.”

(Signed) F. H. TOSH, Secretary.

(d) **Day Open-Air Schools.**

Rowley Regis does not possess an Open-Air School.

### **XIII. PARENTS' PAYMENTS.**

Parents, according to an approved scale of income, contribute towards the cost of treatment at the Children's Hospital and the Ear and Throat Hospital, Birmingham.

Cases treated at the Minor Ailments Clinic pay a small charge for ointment, dressings, etc.

### **XIV. HEALTH EDUCATION.**

Systematic instruction in hygiene is given in the majority of the schools, whilst in other departments, incidental references are made in the course of the general work.

**TABLE I.**

**RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.**

Year ended 31st December, 1942.

**A—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.**

Number of Inspections in the Prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	107
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	20
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	388
Total						515
Number of other Routine Inspections						Nil
Grand Total						515

**B—OTHER INSPECTIONS.**

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... 1867

**TABLE II.**

**Classification of the Nutrition of Children inspected during the Year in Routine Age Groups up to 31st December, 1942.**

Age groups	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	107	24	22.429	59	55.14	24	22.429	—	—
Second Age-group	20	7	35.00	12	60.00	1	5.00	—	—
Third Age-group	388	120	30.927	201	51.8	62	15.97	5	1.28
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	515	151	29.32	272	52.8	87	16.89	5	1.28



**TABLE III.**

**Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V).**

Total number of defects treated or under treatment during  
the year under the Authority's Scheme ... .. 281

**Group II....Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).**

Defect or Disease,  (1)	No. of Defects dealt with		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.  (2)	Other- wise.  (3)	Total.  (4)
Errors of Refraction (including squint).	192	—	192
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (ex- cluding those recorded in Group I.). ...	6	—	6
Total ... ..	198	—	198

	Under the Authority's Scheme	Other- wise	Total
Number of Children for whom Spectacles were			
(a) Prescribed .....	142	—	142
(b) Obtained .....	3	128	131



TABLE IV.

(1) Number of children who were—

(i) Inspected by the Dentist:

	Aged:		
Routine Age Groups	{	5 ... 325	}
		6 ... 359	
		7 ... 329	
		8 ... 309	
		9 ... 396	
		10 ... 396	
		11 ... 463	
		12 ... 328	
		13 ... 371	
		14 ... 7	
			Total ... 3283

Specials ... .. 67

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Total Routine and Specials ... 3350

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(2) Number found to require treatment ... .. 2835

(3) Number actually treated ... .. 1404

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment ... .. 1823

(5) Half-days devoted to:—

Inspection ... .. 17

Treatment ... .. 229

--- Total .. 246

(6) Fillings:—

Permanent Teeth ... .. 392

Temporary Teeth ... .. 27

— Total ... 419

**TABLE IV.**—continued.

(7) Extractions:—

Permanent Teeth	...	...	724
Temporary Teeth	...	...	2750
—— Total ...			3474

(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions 1083

(9) Other Operations:

Permanent Teeth	...	...	24
Temporary Teeth	...	...	8
—— Total ...			32

**TABLE V.**

**Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.**

(i) Average number of visits per school made during the year by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	2
(ii) Total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	6810
(iii) Number of individual children found unclean	...	...	...	...	...	458
(iv) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	...	...	—
(v) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:						
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	...	...	...	...	...	—

**TABLE VI.**  
BLIND CHILDREN.

Name	Age	Address	At a Public Elementary School	At another Institution.	At no School or Institution
Nil	—	—	—	—	—

DEAF CHILDREN.

Name	Age	Address	At a Public Elementary School	At another Institution	At no School or Institution
Nil	—	—	—	—	—









